



January 24, 2005

To the residents of Alton:

Genesis Behavioral Health is very grateful to the Town of Alton for its 2004 appropriation. This funding helped Genesis cover the costs of providing mental health care to residents of your town who are unable to pay the full cost of their services.

During Fiscal Year 2004 (ending June 30, 2004), a total of 97 Alton residents came to Genesis to find help for their mental health problems. Their ages break down as follows:

Ages 1 to 17	50
Ages 18 to 59	43
60 & over	<u>4</u>
Total	97

From this total, 25 residents did not have the resources to cover the costs of their services in full. This "charity care" totaled \$25,913. Your appropriation helped cover a portion of those costs.

Since 1966, Genesis Behavioral Health has provided mental health services for residents of the Lakes Region. Services are provided to children in schools, at home and in special programs designed to help the children practice the skills they need to improve their lives. Elders may receive services in their homes, group homes or nursing homes. Our Gatekeeper Program trains community volunteers to be alert to elders living alone who may need assistance. The Genesis Community Support Program provides services for adults living with life-long mental illnesses. Finally, individual therapy for adults and children can help address issues causing distress as well as provide guidance towards positive behaviors. Genesis emergency services are available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

It's a fact. One out of five Americans will experience some kind of mental illness every year. Residents seeking mental health care are urged to call Genesis in Laconia at 524-1100.

Thank you for your support.

Michael Coughlin  
Executive Director